

**REMARKS**

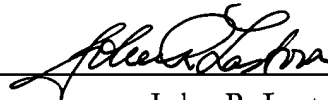
By the foregoing amendment, Applicants have eliminated the multiple claim dependencies in order to minimize the filing fee. Applicants have also amended the claims to conform to U.S. practice.

Prompt and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By:



John R. Lastova  
Reg. No. 33,149

JRL:mm  
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor  
Arlington, VA 22201-4714  
Telephone: (703) 816-4000  
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100